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SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Thank you, Senator Cudaback and members.
Senator Jensen, earlier you'd also referred to Washington of
65-cent tax increase, and I don't have anything to quantify
this, but on my way to Lincoln one day, I was listening to talk
radio, and they were talking about the state of Washington. And
they said how the underground market had gone crazy in
Washington since that tax increase. So they...and you...you
also mentioned something about, there's been a lot of different
statistics used here on the floor, but you believe the ones from
the Center for Disease Control would..did...is that what you
said, Senator Jensen?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Jensen.

SENATOR JENSEN: Yes.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Well, you realize, and you should remember
that I also have statistics from the Center for Disease Control,
and mine are from 1993 to 1995.   But Illinois increased
45 percent; the following two years, tobacco used by youth
increased 22 percent. Massachusetts increased taxes 98 percent,
and by 1995 youth smoking increased 20 percent.   Hawaii
increased 60 cents a pack, one of the highest in the nation,
kids smoking went up 14.9 percent. And those were statistics
from Center for Disease Control. So I guess I don't believe the
numbers. I don't know if yours are right, I don't know if mine
are right, but they come from the same place; it depends on who
puts the numbers together, I guess.

SENATOR JENSEN: One is talking about increase, one is talking
about the tax. I think that's where the confusion comes from.
I think the whole...well, this is your time, go ahead.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Yeah, go ahead, Senator.

SENATOR JENSEN: Well...well...I think the whole thing, you just
need to decide in your own mind, is...is this a direction that
we should go for the health of Nebraskans? Simple as that. And
then along the way, certainly, we can help a budget problem.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Yeah.   I have one more question.   Maybe